

Application Serial No. 09/990,804  
Amendment dated May 27, 2004  
Reply to Office Action dated January 28, 2004

REMARKS

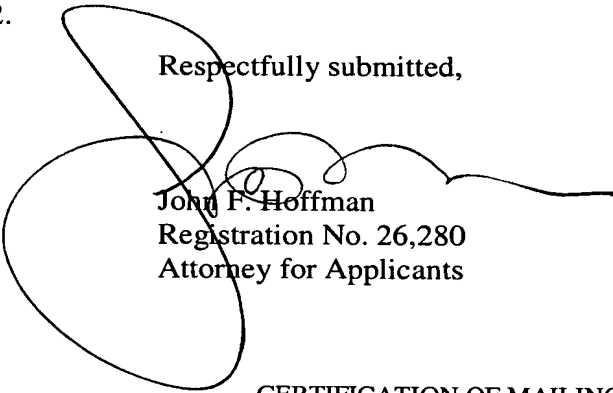
Claims 5 and 9 have been combined as new independent claim 21. Since claim 9 was indicated by the Examiner as being allowable over the prior art, it is submitted that independent claim 21 and dependent claim 22 are similarly allowable. Claims 6-11, 14-16 and 20 are either directly or indirectly dependent on allowable claim 21 and are therefore similarly in condition for allowance.

The remaining claims have been cancelled subject to their being resubmitted in a divisional application.

Furthermore, the drawings and specification have been amended to overcome the objection noted by the Examiner and all the claims have been amended where necessary to overcome the rejections under 35 U.S.C. §112.

It is believed that the application is now in condition for allowance and such action is earnestly solicited. However, if further issues remain, it is requested that the Examiner telephone the undersigned at 260/460-1692.

Respectfully submitted,

  
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CERTIFICATION OF MAILING

I hereby certify that this correspondence is being deposited with the United States Postal Service as First Class Mail in an envelope addressed to: Commissioner for Patents, P.O. Box 1450, Alexandria, VA 22313-1450, on: May 27, 2004.

  
JOHN F. HOFFMAN, REG. NO. 26,280

Name of Registered Representative

Signature

May 27, 2004

Date

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## APPENDIX